Amendments to the Drawings:

Please replace Fig. 2 with the attached replacement sheet.

Replacement sheet 1 includes changes to Fig. 2 and replaces the original sheet that includes

Fig. 2.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet 1

REMARKS

Overview of the Office Action

The Office Action mailed October 4, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended, is respectfully requested.

The drawings have been objected to because they allegedly fail to show necessary textual labels of features or symbols in Fig. 2, as described in the specification.

The Information Disclosure Statement filed September 11, 2006 has been objected to for an invalid publication number.

The Abstract has been objected to because it contains a reference to a figure, and because it contains a second paragraph.

Claims 3-5, 13, and 14 have been objected to on the basis of various informalities.

Claims 1-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,188,328 to Ho ("Ho").

Status of the claims

Claims 1-15 have been amended

Claims 1-15 remain pending.

Objections to the drawings

The Office Action states that the drawings are objected to because they fail to show necessary textual labels of features or symbols in Fig. 2, as described in the specification.

Fig. 2 has now been amended to include a text label "DB" for element 5 to indicate that

10

element 5 is a database, which is described in detail in the specification in paragraph 0037.

Applicants submit that this objection is now overcome.

Objection to the Information Disclosure Statement

A Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed September 11, 2006 has been objected to for an invalid publication number.

The Information Disclosure Statement which includes the correct document number and is submitted herewith.

Objection to the Abstract

The Abstract has now been objected to because it contains a reference to a figure, and because it contains a second paragraph.

The Abstract has been amended to remove the phrase "(Figure 2)" and, consequently, the second paragraph. The Abstract has also been amended to correct various grammatical errors.

Applicants submit that this objection is now overcome.

Objections to claims 3-5, 13, and 14

Original claims 3-4 and 13-14 were objected to for not having ":" after the word "comprising".

Claims 3-4 and 13-14 have been amended to include ":" after the word "comprising".

Original claim 5 has been objected to for not having the word "A" before the phrase "Parking fee system".

Claim 5 has been amended to include the word "A" before the phrase "Parking fee

11

system".

Applicants submit that these objections are now overcome

Rejection of claims 1-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Office Action states that Ho teaches all of Applicants' recited elements.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to point out with enhanced clarity the subject

matter that Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, amended independent claim 1 is

directed to a method for transmitting parking-related data to a user in a parking fee system, in

which the user records parking data when parking commences into a parking fee register of the

parking fee system. The method includes the step of retrieving, on the basis of the parking data

from the parking fee register of the parking fee system, application data that includes at least a

tariff and, if an expiration time of the parking has been defined, the expiration time of the

parking. The method further includes the steps of sending the application data to a mobile

station of the user, and activating an application utilizing the application data in the mobile

station of the user. The application offers the user, by utilizing the tariff, a chance during

ongoing parking to keep track in real time on his mobile station of at least a sum of an accrued

parking fee to be charged after the parking is concluded and, if the expiration time has been

defined, the remaining parking time. Support for the claim amendments can be found in

paragraphs 0002 and 0010.

Applicants' recited invention thus provides, in a user's mobile station that receives

application data which controls an application in the mobile station to utilize the tariff included

in the application data an opportunity to indicate to the user in real time, during ongoing parking,

the calculated accrued parking feed that will be charged the user when parking is concluded.

12

The user can, at any moment, see the up-to-date parking fee that will later be charged. The user then has the option of leaving the vehicle parked, or concluding the parking if the accrued parking fee is deemed to be too great.

In contrast, Ho teaches a parking meter device that is devoted to a particular parker or vehicle and is intended to remain with, typically within, the parked vehicle. The device includes a housing unit that has an LED that, when in use, is visible from outside the vehicle. The device further includes a two-way radio circuit, a display, and a keyboard as well as a computer. In operation, the user communicates, using the keyboard, with a remote central parking service provider via radio data network channels to demand a predetermined parking period. The parking service provider checks the authenticity of the demand and approves the parking request. During lawful, paid for, parking the LED remains ON so that a patrolling parking attendant can easily monitor that parking approval for that vehicle has been granted and remains valid.

Ho teaches a parking system where the driver prepays for the parking, in advance, with the parking meter. The driver leaves the parking meter in the vehicle for viewing access by a parking attendant who can thereby ensure that the parking fee has been paid, and that the prepaid parking time limit has not been exceeded based on information that can be viewed on the vehicle-containing parking meter from outside of the vehicle (see col. 3, lines 31-37 of Ho).

In Ho, there is no need for the user to receive real time information during ongoing parking about the accrued parking fee because the user has already prepaid for a fixed period of parking, unlike in Applicants' recited invention in which a tariff-based parking fee is continuously updated and has not yet been fixed or determined.

Ho fails to teach or suggest a method for transmitting parking-related data to a user in a parking fee system, in which the user records parking data when parking commences into a

13

parking fee register of the parking fee system, and in which the method includes the steps of

sending application data to a mobile station of the user, and activating an application utilizing the

application data in the mobile station of the user, wherein the application offers the user, by

utilizing the tariff, a chance <u>during ongoing parking to keep track in real time of a sum of an</u>

<u>accrued parking fee to be charged after the parking is concluded</u>.

The Examiner cites col. 3, lines 1-19 and lines 46-59 of Ho as allegedly teaching

activation of an application in the mobile station to offer the user a chance to keep track in real

time of the sum of the accrued parking fee. Applicants submit that the cited passages have been

misinterpreted.

The passages cited at col. 3 lines 1-19 of Ho recite that "the device is used when parking

a vehicle by the user selecting a suitable parking bay and using the keyboard to communicate

with the parking service provider...the user identifies himself (or is identified by the signals that

his device transmits) and the parking bay or zone, and requests a parking period required...The

parking service provider checks the identity and payment arrangements (the user may have a pre-

paid card or have a current credit and billing arrangement) and whether the parking period is

available and/or allowed...A parking approval is communicated to the user's device and is

displayed on the screen and the LED is turned ON." The "device", in this case, is the unit that

remains in/with the vehicle to keep track of whether and for how long parking of the vehicle has

been authorized and prepaid. Nothing is taught or suggested in these cited passages of Ho

regarding "activating an application utilizing the application data in the mobile station of the

user, the application offering the user by utilizing the tariff a chance during ongoing parking to

keep track in real time of at least a sum of an accrued parking fee to be charged after the parking

14

is concluded and remaining parking time", as recited in Applicants' amended independent claim 1.

The passages cited at col. 3 lines 46-59 of Ho recite, "In some situations it may be necessary to visibly indicate that the device is being used in the actual parking bay or zone for which the approval has been obtained from the parking service provider. In that case, the screen may be controlled to display a specific bay or zone (e.g. SF A 47). This is to indicate to the patrolling parking attendant in this case that the parking approval has been given for "San Francisco"--"Zone A"--and that "47" minutes remain of the parking period approved. The minutes can be counted down, as time passes, and the LED will remain ON for the remaining period." Here, again, the "device" is the unit that stays in/with the vehicle. Clearly, nothing is taught or suggested in these cited passages of Ho regarding "activating an application utilizing the application data in the mobile station of the user, the application offering the user by utilizing the tariff a chance during ongoing parking to keep track in real time of at least a sum of an accrued parking fee to be charged after the parking is concluded and remaining parking time", as recited in Applicants' amended independent claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that Ho fails to teach or suggest the subject matter recited in Applicants' independent claim 1. Specifically, Ho fails to teach or suggest a method for transmitting parking-related data to a user in a parking fee system, in which the user records parking data when parking commences into a parking fee register of the parking fee system. The method includes the step of retrieving on the basis of the parking data, from the parking fee register of the parking fee system, application data that includes at least a tariff and if such an expiration time has been defined, the expiration time of the parking. The method further includes the steps of sending the application data to a mobile station of the user, and activating

15

an application utilizing the application data in the mobile station of the user. The application thus offers the user, by utilizing the tariff, a chance during ongoing parking to keep track in real time on his mobile station of at least a sum of an accrued parking fee to be charged after the parking is concluded and, if the expiration time has been defined, the remaining parking time.

Claims 2-4 and 13-14, which depend directly or indirectly from independent claim 1, incorporate all of the limitations of independent claim 1 and are therefore deemed to be patentably distinct over Ho for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1.

Independent claims 5, 9, and 11 have been amended to recite limitations similar to those present in amended independent claim 1, and are therefore deemed patentable over Ho for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claim 1.

Claims 6-8, 10, 12, and 15, which variously depend directly or indirectly from independent claims 5, 9, and 11, incorporate all of the limitations of the respective independent claim and are therefore deemed to be patentably distinct over Ho for at least those reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 5, 9, and 11.
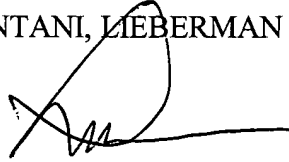

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections, and the allowance of all pending claims, in due course.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions, or objections, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned in order to facilitate an early resolution of any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: January 4, 2007